

Let's Connect:

Establishing and Maintaining an Interface with the WyIR



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What is an interface?

In fact, what is any of this stuff?

- ⬡ **Interface:** point where 2 systems meet and interact
 - Unidirectional (one-way exchange)
 - Bidirectional (two-way exchange)
- ⬡ **IIS:** Immunization Information System aka WylR
- ⬡ **EMR/EHR:** electronic medical/health record system
- ⬡ **Interoperability:** the ability of computer systems or software to exchange and make use of information
- ⬡ **HL7 Message:** Health Level Seven (HL7) is a nationally recognized standard for electronic data exchange between systems housing health care data; It defines a syntax or grammar for formulating the messages that carry this information

How does it work?

- Work together to establish the connection, test it, and make it “live”
- Patient visits the facility, is evaluated and given any necessary vaccinations, then facility staff records the encounter in the EMR
- Based on what the facility staff entered into the EMR, an HL7 message is created and automatically sent to the WylR for processing
- HL7 message is received by the WylR and is evaluated for missing or inaccurate data
 - If WylR finds nothing missing or wrong, it approves the message and places the vaccination event in the WylR
 - If WylR finds something missing or wrong, it will return a warning or an error back to the EMR
- The EMR may or may not show if your message was successful or if it returned with errors or warnings. This is why we rely on monthly error reports.

Facility staff sends a message to the WylR requesting the patient's vaccination history and/or forecast, the WylR then returns a message containing that information.



But, why?

Value of maintaining an interface

- ⬡ **Time:** Saves staff from having to enter vaccinations into both their EMR and the WylR in order to meet mandatory reporting standards
- ⬡ **Even more time:** A bidirectional interface saves staff from having to log in to the WylR to obtain the patient's vaccination history and forecast
- ⬡ **Data saturation:** Sharing data easily between systems can result in more complete and accurate records in the registry and connected EMR systems
- ⬡ **Automated inventory management:** An interface assists staff with maintaining an accurate vaccine inventory



What will our staff have to do?

- ❖ **Create the connection/Onboarding:** Facility staff will work together with EMR vendor staff and WylR staff to complete the onboarding process. Onboarding will take several weeks up to several months, dependent on the challenges faced and level of staff engagement
- ❖ **Maintain the connection:** It is the facility's responsibility to monitor the quality and functionality of the connection, and facilitate any necessary work with their EMR vendor; This continues for the life of the connection
- ❖ **Error correction and data quality:** When errors and warnings are returned, it is the facility's responsibility to address and correct those; This continues for the life of the connection

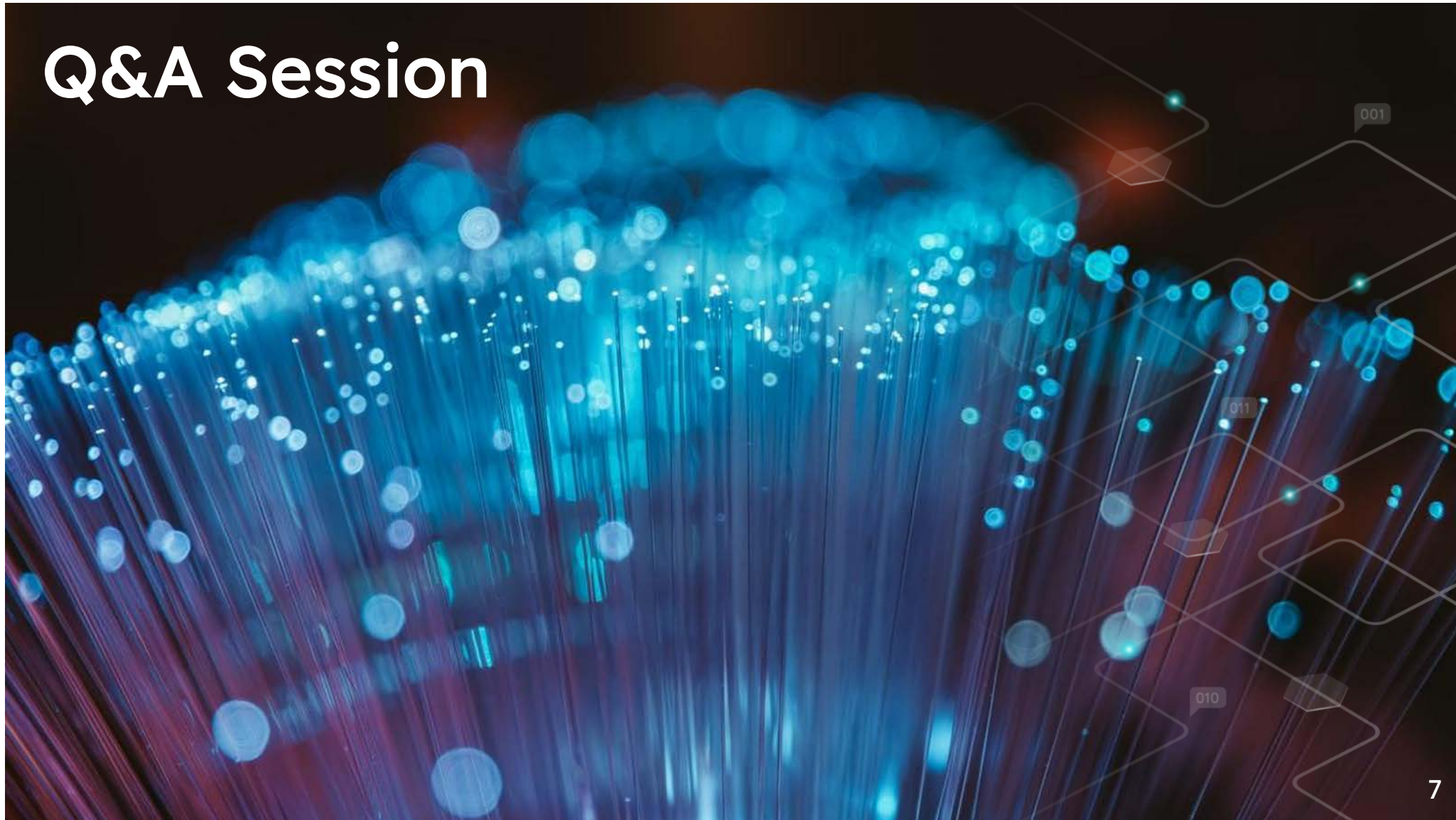


Alright, how do we get an interface?

- Start a conversation with your EMR vendor; ask questions, ensure they are prepared to begin work on a connection
- Register your facility's intent to onboard with the WylR; this can be done on our website, www.immunizewyoming.com
- Possible waiting period until WylR staff is able to begin work
- Prepare your staff for the onboarding process; decide who will play an integral role
- Familiarize with the WylR Onboarding Guide, found on our website



Q&A Session



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